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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee held its fourth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 21 to 31 March 1994. The Secretary-General has the honour to submit to the General Assembly, annexed to the present note, the report on that session.

* A/49/50.

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ANNEX

Report of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, on its fourth session

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, was held at Geneva from 21 to 31 March 1994. The session was convened in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992. At its fourth session, the Committee held five meetings (1st to 5th), on 21, 23, 25, 28 and 31 March 1994.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Officers of the Committee

2. The Bureaux of the Committee and its Working Groups, as elected at its organizational, first and second sessions, are as follows:

Chairman: Mr. Bo Kjellén (Sweden)

Vice-Chairmen: Mr. René Valéry Mongbe (Benin)
Mr. T. P. Sreenivasan (India)
Mr. José Urrutia (Peru)

Rapporteur: Mr. Nikita F. Glazovsky (Russian Federation)

Working Group I

Chairman: Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaf (Algeria)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Erwin Ortíz Gandarillas (Bolivia)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. A. Ovchinnikov (Uzbekistan)

Working Group II

Chairman: Ms. Anne De Lattre (France)

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Morad-Ali Ardeshiri (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. Frederick E. G. Mallya (United Republic of Tanzania)

B. Adoption of the agenda

3. At its 1st meeting, on 21 March, the Committee adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

2. Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa.

3. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds:

   (a) Special Voluntary Fund to support the participation of developing countries affected by drought and desertification, particularly the least developed countries;

   (b) Trust Fund for the negotiating process.

4. Adoption of the provisional agenda for the final session.

5. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fourth session.

C. Attendance

4. Representatives of the following States attended the session: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Holy See, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. The following United Nations organs and bodies were represented: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Economic Commission for Africa and United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office.

6. The following specialized agencies were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Bank and World Meteorological Organization.

7. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented: African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, African Development Bank, Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation, Arab Maghreb Union, Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee, Arab Region and Europe, Commission of the European Communities, Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, League of Arab States, Organization of African Unity, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Organization of the Islamic Conference, Permanant Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel, Sahara and Sahel Observatory, Southern African Development Community, Southern African Regional Commission for the Conservation and Utilization of the Soil.

8. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: Association des Volontaires pour le Développement, Australian Conservation Foundation, Australian Council For Overseas Aid, Both Ends, Center for International Environmental Law, Centre Africain d'Assistance de Protection de l'Environnement au Sahel, Centre de Recherche et d'Information pour le Développement, Center for Our Common Future, Confédération des ONG d'Environnement et de Développement de l'Afrique Centrale, Comité Nacional Pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora, Environment Liaison Centre International, Environment Policy and Society, Environnement et Développement du Tiers-Monde, European Environmental Bureau, Fundaçao Grupo Esquel Brasil, Guamina, Institut de Recherche sur l'Environnement, Instituto de Prehistoria, Antropologia e Ecologia, International Academy of the Environment, International Federation of Agricultural Producers, International Federation of University Women, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Les Amis de la Terre-Togo, Lutheran World Federation, Réseau Africain pour le Développement, Sahel Defis: Développement Environnement Formation Insertion Sociale, Société Algérienne pour le Droit de l'Environnement, Solidarité pour le Sahel, Solidarity Canada Sahel, Turkish Foundation for Combatting Soil Erosion, Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats, World Conservation Union, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Learning, World Organization of the Scout Movement - Africa Regional Office, World Young Women's Christian Association and ZERO.

D. Documentation

9. The documents before the Committee at its fourth session are listed in appendix I to the present report.

III. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations

10. At its 1st meeting, on 21 March, the Committee, bearing in mind paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 47/188 and rule 49 of the rules of procedure of the Committee (A/AC.241/3), decided to approve the accreditation of the non-governmental organizations listed in document A/AC.241/9/Add.6 (see appendix II, decision 4/1).

IV. ELABORATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

A. Report of Working Group I

11. At the 5th meeting, on 31 March, the Chairman of Working Group I, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaf (Algeria), drew the Committee's attention to the report of Working Group I (A/AC.241/WG.II/L.3), as adopted.

12. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the report of Working Group I (see appendix III).

B. Report of Working Group II

13. At the 5th meeting, on 31 March, the Chairman of Working Group II, Ms. Anne De Lattre (France), drew the Committee's attention to the report of Working Group II (A/AC.241/WG.II/L.3), as adopted.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the report of Working Group II (see appendix IV).

V. REVIEW OF THE SITUATION AS REGARDS EXTRABUDGETARY FUNDS

15. The Committee considered item 3, entitled "Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds" at its 4th and 5th meetings, on 28 and 31 March. At the 4th meeting, the Chairman took note of the approval of the Secretariat's presentation of document A/AC.241/20 and Add.1, while recognizing that there were still refinements to be made. In this regard, the representative of Benin requested a revision of the tables presented in document A/AC.241/20, which was subsequently issued in document A/AC.241/20/Add.2.

A. Special Voluntary Fund

16. The Committee took note of measures taken for its third and fourth sessions with regard to the Special Voluntary Fund. The Committee also agreed that all countries and international organizations should contribute to the Fund to enable the Secretariat to assist developing country participation. The Chairman stressed the importance of having the maximum participation possible for the Paris session and thanked the donors for their contributions.

B. Trust Fund

17. The Committee took note of the activities carried out by the Secretariat to support the preparatory activities at the national, regional and global levels. The Committee also endorsed the measures taken to finance the participation of non-governmental organizations on the basis of contributions to the Trust Fund

earmarked for this specific purpose and requested the Secretary-General to facilitate the participation of non-governmental organizations through the use of the Trust Fund. The Committee agreed that all countries and international organizations should continue to contribute to the Trust Fund to continue to support preparatory activities at the national, regional and global levels. The Chairman thanked the contributors for their support.

VI. ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE FIFTH SESSION

18. At the 5th meeting, on 31 March, the Committee decided to approve the draft provisional agenda for its fifth session (see appendix II, decision 4/2).

19. At the same meeting, the Committee took note of the note by the Chairman on the organization of work at the fifth session, which read as follows:

> "In decision 2/1, adopted by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification at its second session, the Committee defined the mandates of the two Working Groups. Article 2 (c) of that decision states the following:
>
> > 'The two Working Groups should, if possible, complete their work by March 1994, during the fourth session of the Committee at Geneva, in order to allow the Committee, at its fifth session, to finalize negotiations on the basis of a consolidated text.'
>
> "Such a consolidated text is now available, even if there are still a number of brackets, and one important section (articles 22 and 23 on financial resources and mechanisms) continues to be the subject of special consultations. Against this background, the conditions for the completion of the work of the Working Groups would seem to be fulfilled.
>
> "This opens the possibility for a flexible organization of work at the fifth session based on the needs in terms of negotiating specific outstanding issues. In the Chairman's introductory comments to this session of the Committee, on 21 March, the Committee was asked to authorize the Chairman to organize the fifth session in the light of the results of the present session and in the light of consultations during the interim period.
>
> "Even if flexibility is important, there also has to be firm structure of work; and delegations need maximum information in order to prepare themselves for the session. I therefore wish to give the following indications before the end of the present session; they may be supplemented later in the interim period in order to keep delegations updated, if necessary.

"There will be facilities for two major meetings with full interpretation to be held simultaneously, during the fifth session. The meetings will be held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

"Meetings of the plenary will be held as required to negotiate outstanding points at that level, in particular during the second week of the session. In order to finalize negotiation on as wide a range of issues as possible at an early stage, informal working groups, meeting in large rooms with full interpretation, will be established under the chairmanship of coordinators, appointed by the Chairman of the Committee after consultation with the Bureau. The present Chairmen of the Working Groups have already indicated that they would be ready to take on such tasks.

"Against this background, Mr. Djoghlaf and Ms. de Lattre will be asked to take on various negotiating tasks on my behalf. At the very start of the session - after an opening plenary meeting - it is my intention to establish an informal working group to deal with regional annexes, under the chairmanship of Ms. de Lattre. At the same time, outstanding issues in the main part of the convention will be reviewed in plenary meeting. The consultations on financial issues, coordinated by Mr. Pierre-Marc Johnson and Mr. Bolong Sonko will also continue. The Committee will take stock of progress in a plenary meeting in the afternoon or evening of Wednesday, 8 June. After that, other informal working groups will be set up to finalize the remaining items.

"The question of a possible review of the text by legal experts has been raised. A very small number of experts may be asked to assist the Bureau and the Secretariat with this task.

"The Bureau has met all through this session with the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Working Groups. Even if the Working Groups themselves will not be operative at the fifth session, it is proposed to continue daily meetings with this same Group, which has a balanced composition and which has proved to be a most useful instrument for managing the negotiation. It is also proposed to continue the practice of meetings with the Chairmen of regional and interest groups when necessary."

VII. SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

20. The General Assembly in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/191 of 20 December 1993, decided that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee should hold one session after the adoption of the convention in order to review the situation in the interim period pending its entry into force, in particular with regard to the implementation of provisions adapted to the specific needs of each region. In paragraph 3 of the same resolution, the General Assembly also decided that that session should be held not later than 31 January 1995. Accordingly, the dates proposed for the sixth session are 9 to 20 January 1995.

VIII. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ITS FOURTH SESSION

21. At its 5th meeting, on 31 March, the Committee adopted the draft report on its fourth session, as contained in document A/AC.241/L.17, and authorized the Rapporteur to finalize it in cooperation with the Chairman and the Bureau by incorporating therein the proceedings of the 2nd to 5th meetings.

APPENDIX I

List of documents before the Committee at its fourth session

Document symbol	Agenda item	Title or description
A/AC.241/9/Add.6	1	List of non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation
A/AC.241/15/Rev.1	2	Note by the Secretariat containing a revised negotiating text of the convention
A/AC.241/18	1	Provisional agenda for the fourth session
A/AC.241/19	2	Note by the Secretariat entitled "Negotiating text of a regional implementation annex for Africa"
A/AC.241/20 and Add.1 and Add.2	3	Note by the Secretariat on the review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds
A/AC.241/21	2	Note verbale dated 7 March 1994 from the Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General
A/AC.241/L.17	5	Draft report of the Committee on its fourth session
A/AC.241/WG.I/L.3	2	Draft report of Working Group I
A/AC.241/WG.II/L.3	2	Draft report of Working Group II
A/AC.241/CRP.5	1	Paper on case studies
A/AC.241/CRP.6	2	Paper on elements of reference for the content of national African Action programmes; lessons from the Committee secretariat preparatory process
A/AC.241/CRP.7	2	Draft regional implementation annex for Latin America and the Caribbean
A/AC.241/CRP.8	2	Regional implementation annex for Asia
A/AC.241/CRP.9	-	Note by the Chairman on interim arrangements
A/AC.241/CRP.10	2	Regional implementation annex for the northern Mediterranean

APPENDIX II

Decisions adopted by the Committee at its fourth session

Decision 4/1

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, bearing in mind paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992 and rule 49 of the rules of procedure of the Committee (A/AC.241/3), decides to approve the accreditation of the following non-governmental organizations:

Arusha Diocesan Development Office
Association des Amis de la Nature et de l'Environnement
Association Malienne pour la protection de l'Environnement "Stop-Sahel"
Benin "21"
Centre Africain d'Assistance et de Protection de l'Environnement au Sahel
Fundación del Sur
Green Forum for Development
Instituto de Investigación y Desarrollo Comunal "La Libertad"
Pacific Centre for International Studies
Projektstelle Umwelt und Entwicklung
Service Civil International
Southern Youth and Students Organization
Terre Vivante - Living Earth
Turkish Foundation for Combatting Erosion, Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats

Decision 4/2

Draft provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the Elaboration of an International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification adopts the following draft provisional agenda for its fifth session:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

2. Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa.

3. Review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds:

   (a) Special Voluntary Fund to support the participation of developing countries affected by drought and desertification, particularly the least developed countries;

   (b) Trust Fund for the negotiating process.

4. Organization of the sixth session.

5. Adoption of the convention and final document.

APPENDIX III

Report of Working Group I

A. Organization of work

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 March 1994, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in accordance with its decision 2/1 of 13 September 1993, allocated item 2 of its agenda, entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" to the working groups. Working Group I would be responsible for the elaboration of such provisions as the preamble, principles, objectives and commitments, including financial arrangements, national and regional action programmes, education and public awareness and capacity-building.

2. At the 1st meeting of Working Group I, on 21 March 1994, the Chairman made an introductory statement.

3. At the same meeting, the Working Group approved its programme of work for the session. It held 13 formal meetings during the session.

4. Working Group I had before it for its consideration a note by the Secretariat entitled "Revised negotiating text of the convention" (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1).

B. Discussion of topics

1. Preamble

First reading

5. Working Group I considered the topic at its 1st meeting, on 21 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 16 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

6. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 24 March. At its 6th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 10 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. At the 7th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 14 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Third reading

7. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 10th meeting, on 28 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 14 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

2. Scope of the Convention

First reading

8. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March, and heard a statement by the representative of one State speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

9. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 7th meeting, on 24 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

3. Objectives

First reading

10. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March, and heard statements by the representatives of five States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

4. Principles

First reading

11. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 22 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

12. Working Group I resumed its consideration of the topic at its 10th meeting, on 28 March, and heard statements by the representatives of six States.

5. General provisions

First reading

13. Working Group I considered the topic at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 22 March. At the 2nd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 18 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. At the 3rd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of five States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

Second reading

14. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 8th meeting, on 25 March, and heard statements by the representatives of nine States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Third reading

15. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 10th meeting, on 28 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 15 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

6. Action programmes

First reading

16. Working Group I considered the topic at its 3rd to 5th meetings, on 22 and 23 March. At the 3rd meeting, on 22 March, statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as by the representative of one non-governmental organization. At the 4th meeting, on 23 March, statements were made by the representatives of 31 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of Member States of the United Nations that

are members of the Group of 77, as well as by the representative of a non-governmental organization. At the 5th meeting, on 23 March, statements were made by the representatives of 18 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Second reading

17. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 8th meeting, on 25 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 16 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

Third reading

18. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 10th to 12th meetings, on 28 and 29 March. At the 10th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of nine States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. At the 11th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China. At the 11th meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 17 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

7. Capacity-building, education and public awareness

First reading

19. Working Group I considered the topic at its 5th meeting, on 23 March, and heard statements by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, as well as by the representative of a non-governmental organization.

Second reading

20. The Working Group resumed its consideration of the topic at its 9th meeting, on 25 March, and heard statements by the representatives of seven States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community, as well as by the representatives of two non-governmental organizations.

8. Financial resources and mechanisms

First reading

21. Working Group I considered the topic at its 6th meeting, on 24 March, and heard statements by the representatives of six States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

C. Adoption of the report

22. At its 13th meeting, on 30 March, the Working Group adopted the draft report (A/AC.241/WG.I/L.3).

APPENDIX IV

Report of Working Group II

A. Organization of work

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 21 March 1994, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee, in accordance with its decision 2/1 of 13 September 1993, allocated item 2 of its agenda, entitled "Elaboration of an international convention to combat desertification in countries experiencing serious drought and/or desertification, particularly in Africa" to the working groups. Working Group II would be responsible for the elaboration of such provisions as definitions, institutional, administrative, technological and scientific aspects; research, data collection and exchange information; procedural arrangements and other legal provisions such as any instruments related to the convention.

2. At the 1st meeting, the Working Group approved its programme of work for 21 to 31 March 1994. Subsequently it held 14 formal and 5 informal meetings during that period.

3. Working Group II had before it for its consideration the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the Revised negotiating text of the convention (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the negotiating text of a regional implementation annex for Africa (A/AC.241/19).

B. Discussion of topics

1. Definitions

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 1)

4. Working Group II considered the topic at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 21 and 22 March.

5. Statements were made by the representatives of 26 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

Second reading

6. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 9th, 10th and 13th meetings, on 25, 28 and 30 March.

7. Statements were made by the representatives of 17 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

2. Information collection, analysis and exchange

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 18)

8. Working Group II considered the topic at its 2nd meeting, on 22 March.

9. Statements were made by the representatives of 25 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

Second reading

10. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 9th and 10th meetings, on 25 and 28 March.

11. Statements were made by the representatives of 11 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

3. Research and development

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 19)

12. Working Group II considered the topic at its 2nd and 3rd meetings, on 22 March.

13. Statements were made by the representatives of 21 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

Second reading

14. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 13th meeting, on 30 March.

15. Statements were made by the representatives of five States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

4. Transfer, acquisition, adaptation and development of technology

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 20)

16. Working Group II considered the topic at its 3rd meeting, on 22 March.

17. Statements were made by the representatives of 15 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community, one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

Second reading

18. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 13th meeting, on 30 March.

19. Statements were made by the representatives of two States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

5. Institutions

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, articles 24-27)

20. Working Group II considered the topic at its 4th and 5th meetings, on 23 March.

21. Statements were made by the representatives of 29 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

22. An observer of a non-governmental organization made a statement.

Second reading

23. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 9th, 11th and 13th meetings, on 25, 28 and 30 March.

24. Statements were made by the representatives of 18 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

6. Procedures and final clauses

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, articles 28-42)

25. Working Group II considered the topic at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 24 March.

26. Statements were made by the representatives of 19 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

Second reading

27. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 14th meeting, on 31 March.

28. Statements were made by the representatives of 11 States, including one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

7. Regional implementation annexes

First reading (A/AC.241/15/Rev.1, article 17)

29. Working Group II considered the topic at its 7th and 8th meetings, on 24 and 25 March.

30. Statements were made by the representatives of nine States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

8. Implementation annex for Africa

First reading (A/AC.241/19)

31. Working Group II considered the topic at its 7th to 9th meetings, on 24 and 25 March.

32. Statements were made by the representatives of 27 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

33. An observer of a non-governmental organization made a statement.

Second reading

34. The Working Group continued its consideration of the topic at its 11th and 12th meetings, on 28 and 30 March.

35. Statements were made by the representatives of 32 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States and one speaking on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community.

9. Implementation annex for Latin America and the Caribbean

36. The Working Group considered the draft regional implementation annex for Latin America and the Caribbean (A/AC.241/CRP.7) at its 13th meeting, on 30 March.

37. Statements were made by the representatives of 17 States.

10. Implementation annex for Asia

38. The Working Group considered the draft regional implementation annex for Asia (A/AC.241/CRP.8) at its 14th meeting, on 31 March.

39. Statements were made by the representatives of 12 States, including one speaking on behalf of the Group of African States.

C. Adoption of the report

40. At its 14th meeting, on 31 March, the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur, Mr. Frederick E. G. Mallya, introduced the draft report (A/AC.241/WG.II/L.3).

41. At the same meeting, the Working Group adopted the draft report, as amended.